IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: DACE et al.

Examiner: Jon D. Epperson

Serial No. 09/879,279

Group Art Unit: 1639

Filed: June 12, 2001

For: IN VITRO CAPTURE OF NUCLEIC ACIDS VIA MODIFIED

OLIGONCLEOTIDES AND MAGNETIC BEADS

Attorney Docket No: 60050USNP

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of August 19, 2003 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on September 19, 2003. A one-month extension up to and including October 20, 2003 is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Applicant's credit card in the amount of \$110.00 for payment of the extension fee. Enclosed is a Credit Card Payment Form for fee purposes. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1744.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. Kakefuda Reg. No. 39,245

Attorney for Applicants

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OCT 2 1 2003

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Date: October 20, 2003